

Recycling Public Advisory Council

DRAFT Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Location: Brandywine Hundred Library, 1300 Foulk Rd., Wilmington, DE

Members Present: BJ Vinton, Chairman (CSWSC)
Paul Bickhart, (Recycling Industry)
Mike Parkowski proxy for Pat Canzano (DSWA)
Dick Cecil (Del. Association of Counties)
Nancy Marker proxy for Marjorie Crofts (DNREC)
Sheba Vine proxy for George Danneman (Soda Beverage Industry)
Kelly Davis (Educator, DelTech-Owens Campus)
Dick Fleming (Delaware Nature Society)
Michael Fusca (Alcohol Beverage Industry)
Basil Kollias (DE Chamber of Commerce)
Marianne Cinaglia proxy for Wally Kremer (DelEASI)
Carrie Leishman (Restaurant Industry)
Julie Miro Wenger (Delaware Food Industry Council)
Kyle Sonnenberg (DE League of Local Governments)
Pat Todd (League of Women Voters)

Members Absent: Tom Houska (Waste Management, Inc.)

Non-Members Present: Paul Sample (Samples, Inc.)	Terry McBride (Burns & McBride)
Bill Miller (DNREC)	Brian McBride (Burns & McBride)
Bob Barrish (Citizen)	Jim McBride (Burns & McBride)
Joe Myers (Waste Hauler)	Max Timmons (Soda Bev. Industry)
Joe Maier (Econo Haul)	John Skrobot Jr. (Citizen)
Bruce Georgov (IDS-WI)	Hetty Franke (UD Coop. Ext.)
Stan Mills (Rehoboth Beach)	

BJ Vinton called the meeting to order at approximately 1:35 P.M. He welcomed everyone and asked for each person to introduce themselves.

Public Comments – None

Approval of Minutes from Meeting of May 25, 2011

Nancy M. had some wording edits. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved with the discussed changes.

Universal Recycling Grant and Loan Program Update

Bill M. announced that all but seven grant recipients had fully executed contracts, signed by both parties. The City of Dover, City of Wilmington, and Moor Disposal are pending. MT Trash, Town of Harrington, Town of Georgetown, and Town of Bridgeville have withdrawn. Bruce G. said that Waste Management Inc. just bought out MT Trash. Bill M. added that some recipients have already submitted for reimbursement and DNREC is working with the one loan recipient on that process.

Bottle Fee Collection Update

Nancy M. shared that from December through April, the Division of Revenue has collected \$1,071,000. DNREC, Mike F., and others met with the Division of Revenue to help hone in on bottle fee licensing. Mike F. helped with identifying potential connections for bottle fees lagging in the alcoholic beverage sector. DNREC suggested the Division of Revenue meet with the soda beverage industry on what entities should have licenses and what bottle fee revenue should be. Nancy M. said it is still unknown if the actual bottle fees will meet what is expected. Dick F. felt that the RPAC should stay on top of these issues and asked that this topic remain on the agendas for the rest of the year.

Commercial Recycling

Paul B. explained that the first meeting of the subcommittee was this past Monday and they reviewed the legislative requirements to issue recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly. They also talked about synergy with the DSWA's Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan and engaging the Chamber of Commerce to reach out to the business community for involvement. There will certainly be more meetings. Kyle S. asked and Paul B. responded that the only requirement for commercial recycling is that commercial businesses participate in a comprehensive recycling program by 2014. Recommendations are due November 1, 2012. Pat T. suggests involving the Outreach Subcommittee as outreach is a likely component. Carrie L. asked folks to keep in mind that restaurants are commercial businesses that have the same early deadline as single-family residences. BJ said defining what commercial recycling is will be a challenge and he ensures that the group is very sensitive to business challenges and don't want to add difficulty. Kyle S. pointed out a possible discrepancy to avoid which would be if certain businesses are subject to different requirements than other businesses. BJ thanked folks for the feedback and explained that reports will continue to be brought back to the full Council.

Outreach and Education

Bill M. explained that DNREC has a fairly new website (www.recycling.delaware.gov), has conducted about seven public informational meetings, has done radio commercials, and has created a facebook page (Delaware Recycles) to inform folks about universal recycling. DNREC has also been working with a contractor and the Outreach Subcommittee to develop a name a logo for the broad outreach campaign. The layout was projected for the group to see and the wording reads: Delaware Recycles, It's Second Nature. DNREC will continue to work with the Outreach Subcommittee to develop future messages and outreach methods.

Recycling Market Update

Mike P. said the recycling markets have been steady with single-stream recyclables pricing around \$45 per ton. Paul B. also said commodities are steady and good with no major moves in pricing.

Old /New Business

BJ shared that there had been the threat of a bill that would undermine universal recycling. He has not heard that anything should come of that, but the end of the legislative session is unpredictable.

BJ presented a letter that was drafted to send to State Legislators and the Governor. The letter provides reasoning for the support of universal recycling. After some discussion there was a motion to send out the letter with a few very minor edits. The motion passed with 14 in favor, Marianne C. abstaining, and Tom H. absent.

Following some questions Mike P. explained DSWA's plans regarding the Recycle Delaware Drop-off Centers and the Electronic Goods Recycling Program.

Future Meetings

Scheduling for the next year's worth of RPAC Meetings was discussed. It was agreed to continue with meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. The only exceptions are November and December that were moved to the previous Wednesday to avoid holiday conflicts. Meeting locations rotate among the three counties, the only change is to hold May and June in Kent County for proximity to Legislative Hall near the end of session. The next meeting will be held on July 27, 2011 in Sussex County.

The meeting was adjourned around 3:00 P.M.